

## **IC 9-18-25**

### **Chapter 25. Special Group Recognition License Plates**

## **IC 9-18-25-1**

### **Exemptions from chapter**

Sec. 1. This chapter does not apply to the following:

- (1) Antique motor vehicle license plates (IC 9-18-12).
- (2) Recovery vehicle license plates (IC 9-18-13).
- (3) Personalized license plates (IC 9-18-15).
- (4) Prisoner of war license plates (IC 9-18-17).
- (5) Disabled veteran license plates (IC 9-18-18).
- (6) Purple Heart license plates (IC 9-18-19).
- (7) Indiana National Guard license plates (IC 9-18-20).
- (8) Person with a disability license plates (IC 9-18-22).
- (9) Amateur radio operator license plates (IC 9-18-23).
- (10) Pearl Harbor survivor license plates (IC 9-18-45.8).

*As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.97-1991, SEC.1; P.L.23-1993, SEC.32; P.L.222-1999, SEC.10.*

## **IC 9-18-25-1.6**

### **Termination of organization's qualification for special group recognition license plates inapplicable to Pearl Harbor survivor license plates**

Sec. 1.6. Section 14 of this chapter does not apply to a Pearl Harbor survivor license plate issued under IC 9-18-25-2(3).

*As added by P.L.222-1999, SEC.11.*

## **IC 9-18-25-1.7**

### **Applicability to college or university plates**

Sec. 1.7. Sections 14, 15, and 16 of this chapter do not apply to a college or university special group recognition license plate.

*As added by P.L.225-1999, SEC.2.*

## **IC 9-18-25-2**

### **Adoption of rules; petitions; design and issuance**

Sec. 2. (a) The bureau shall adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 establishing the requirements to qualify for participation in the special group recognition license plate program.

(b) Representatives of a special group shall petition the bureau to qualify for participation in the special group recognition license plate program.

(c) Each petition submitted under this section must contain the printed name, address, and signature of at least five hundred (500) members of the special group who pledge to purchase the special group recognition license plate if a special group recognition license plate is issued for the group under this chapter.

(d) When a petition containing the information required in subsection (c) is submitted to the bureau, the bureau may design and issue a special group recognition license plate that designates a vehicle as being registered under this chapter by a person (as defined

in IC 9-13-2-124) who is a member of the special group.  
*As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.125-1995, SEC.6; P.L.261-2001, SEC.2.*

### **IC 9-18-25-3**

#### **Design and emblem; reflective material**

Sec. 3. (a) The design of a special group recognition license plate issued under this chapter must be a distinct design and include an emblem that identifies the vehicle as being registered to a person who is a member of a special group.

(b) A special group license plate must be treated with special reflective material designed to increase the visibility and legibility of the special group license plate.

*As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.118-1998, SEC.5.*

### **IC 9-18-25-4 Repealed**

*(Repealed by P.L.261-2001, SEC.5.)*

### **IC 9-18-25-5**

#### **Special group representatives; design conference; group membership list**

Sec. 5. The bureau:

(1) shall require representatives of a special group to confer with the bureau concerning the design of the emblem that identifies the vehicle as being registered to a person who is a member of a special group; and

(2) may request a list of the names and addresses of the persons who are:

(A) members of the special group; and

(B) eligible for a special group recognition license plate.

*As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.118-1998, SEC.6; P.L.261-2001, SEC.3.*

### **IC 9-18-25-6**

#### **Repealed**

*(Repealed by P.L.261-2001, SEC.5.)*

### **IC 9-18-25-7**

#### **Display**

Sec. 7. A special group recognition license plate issued under this chapter may be displayed on the following:

(1) A passenger motor vehicle.

(2) A truck registered as a truck with a declared gross weight of not more than eleven thousand (11,000) pounds.

(3) A recreational vehicle.

*As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6.*

### **IC 9-18-25-8**

#### **Owner registration; former prisoners of war**

Sec. 8. (a) Except as provided under subsection (b), a motor

vehicle may be registered under this chapter only by an owner who qualifies for a special group recognition license plate.

(b) The bureau may register a vehicle under this chapter if the applicant is:

- (1) a former prisoner of war; or
- (2) the surviving spouse of a former prisoner of war.

*As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6.*

#### **IC 9-18-25-9**

##### **Transfer of plates**

Sec. 9. A person who owns a motor vehicle registered under this chapter may transfer the special group recognition license plate from the motor vehicle to another motor vehicle eligible to be registered under this chapter.

*As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6.*

#### **IC 9-18-25-10**

##### **Repealed**

*(Repealed by P.L.125-1995, SEC.12.)*

#### **IC 9-18-25-11**

##### **Staggered registration**

Sec. 11. The schedule for staggered registration under IC 9-18-2-8 applies to registrations under this chapter.

*As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6.*

#### **IC 9-18-25-12**

##### **Vehicle use restricted; display by unqualified persons prohibited**

Sec. 12. (a) Except as provided in subsection (c), a vehicle bearing a special group recognition license plate issued under this chapter may be used only for private and personal purposes.

(b) A person who does not qualify for the special group recognition license plate may not display a special group recognition license plate on a vehicle the person is required to register.

(c) A vehicle:

- (1) owned by a corporation (as defined in IC 6-5.5-1-6), a municipal corporation (as defined in IC 36-1-2-10), a partnership (as defined in IC 6-3-1-19), or a sole proprietor; and
- (2) bearing an environmental license plate issued under IC 9-18-29;

may be used for any lawful purpose.

*As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6. Amended by P.L.120-1993, SEC.2.*

#### **IC 9-18-25-13**

##### **Violations**

Sec. 13. A person who violates this chapter commits a Class C infraction.

*As added by P.L.2-1991, SEC.6.*

#### **IC 9-18-25-14**

**Termination of organization's qualification; plates issued before January 1, 1998; redesign of plates**

Sec. 14. (a) This section applies to an organization that receives a special group license plate issued under this chapter before January 1, 1998.

(b) The bureau shall terminate the organization's qualification for the special group license plate program and no further special group recognition license plates shall be issued for the organization if less than two thousand (2,000) of the organization's special group license plates are sold or renewed before January 1, 2000. The bureau shall notify the organization's representatives that the organization will be ineligible to participate in the special group license plate in a plate cycle beginning after December 31, 2000.

(c) If at least two thousand (2,000) but not more than nine thousand nine hundred ninety-nine (9,999) of the organization's special group license plates are sold in the plate cycle between January 1, 1997, and December 31, 2000, the bureau shall redesign the organization's special group license plate under sections 3 and 5 of this chapter for the plate cycle beginning January 1, 2002. The bureau shall confer with the representatives of the organization concerning the design of the emblem prescribed by section 5 of this chapter.

(d) This section expires January 2, 2003.

*As added by P.L.118-1998, SEC.8. Amended by P.L.1-1999, SEC.27.*

**IC 9-18-25-15**

**Termination of organization's qualification; insufficient sales**

Sec. 15. The bureau shall terminate an organization's qualification for the special group license plate program and no further special group recognition license plates shall be issued for an organization if less than two thousand (2,000) of the organization's special group license plates are sold or renewed in the first four (4) years of the five (5) year period beginning the earlier of January 1, 2002, or January 1 of the year in which the organization's special group license plate is first issued. The bureau shall reevaluate the organization's qualification for the special group license plate program every five (5) years thereafter. The bureau shall terminate the organization's qualification for the special group license plate program and no further special group recognition license plates shall be issued for an organization if less than two thousand (2,000) of the organization's special group license plates are sold or renewed in the first four (4) years of a subsequent five (5) year period.

*As added by P.L.118-1998, SEC.9. Amended by P.L.1-1999, SEC.28.*

**IC 9-18-25-16**

**Termination of organization's qualification; plates issued between January 1, 2000, and January 1, 2001; design of plates**

Sec. 16. (a) This section applies to a special group that receives a special group license plate issued under this chapter after December 31, 1999, and before January 1, 2001.

(b) The bureau shall terminate the organization's qualification for the special group license plate program and no further special group recognition license plates shall be issued for the organization if less than five hundred (500) of the organization's special group license plates are sold or renewed before January 1, 2001. The bureau shall notify the organization's representatives that the organization will be ineligible to participate in the special group license plate in a plate cycle beginning after December 31, 2001.

(c) Notwithstanding section 3 of this chapter, the representatives of the special group may petition the bureau to design a distinctive license plate that identifies a vehicle as being registered to a person who is a member of the special group if at least ten thousand (10,000) of the special group's license plate are issued under this chapter after December 31, 1999, and before January 1, 2001.

(d) The design of the special group license plate must include a basic design for the special group recognition license plate with consecutive numerals or letters, or both, to properly identify the vehicle.

(e) A special group license plate must be treated with special reflective material designed to increase the visibility and legibility of the special group license plate.

(f) This section expires January 2, 2003.

*As added by P.L.118-1998, SEC.10.*

#### **IC 9-18-25-17**

##### **Sales of special group plates in excess of 10,000; design of plates**

Sec. 17. (a) This section applies to a special group if at least ten thousand (10,000) of the special group's license plates are issued under this chapter in the first four (4) years of a five (5) year plate cycle beginning after December 31, 2001.

(b) Notwithstanding section 3 of this chapter, the representatives of the special group may petition the bureau to design a distinctive license plate that identifies a vehicle as being registered to a person who is a member of the special group.

(c) The design of the special group license plate must include a basic design for the special group recognition license plate with consecutive numerals or letters, or both, to properly identify the vehicle.

(d) A special group license plate must be treated with special reflective material designed to increase the visibility and legibility of the special group license plate.

*As added by P.L.118-1998, SEC.11.*

#### **IC 9-18-25-17.5**

##### **Sales of special group plates in excess of 5,000; fees and trust funds**

Sec. 17.5. (a) This section applies to a special group if at least five thousand (5,000) of the special group's license plates are issued under this chapter during one (1) calendar year beginning after December 31, 2004.

(b) Notwithstanding section 3 of this chapter, the representatives

of the special group may petition the bureau to design a distinctive license plate that identifies a vehicle as being registered to a person who is a member of the special group.

(c) The design of the special group license plate must include a basic design for the special group recognition license plate with consecutive numerals or letters, or both, to properly identify the vehicle.

(d) A special group license plate must be treated with special reflective material designed to increase the visibility and legibility of the special group license plate.

(e) Beginning with the calendar year following the year in which the representatives petition the bureau under subsection (b), the bureau shall issue the special group's license plate to a person who is eligible to register a vehicle under this title who:

(1) completes an application for the license plate; and

(2) pays the following fees:

(A) The appropriate fee under IC 9-29-5-38(a).

(B) An annual fee of twenty-five dollars (\$25).

(f) The annual fee referred to in subsection (e)(2)(B) shall be collected by the bureau and deposited in a trust fund for the special group established under subsection (g). However, the bureau shall retain two dollars (\$2) for each license plate issued until the cost of designing and issuing the special group license plate is recovered by the bureau.

(g) The treasurer of state shall establish a trust fund for each special group for which the bureau collects fees under this section.

(h) The treasurer of state shall invest the money in the fund not currently needed to meet the obligations of the fund in the same manner as other public funds are invested. Interest that accrues from these investments shall be deposited in the fund. Money in the fund is continuously appropriated for the purposes of this section. Money in the fund at the end of a state fiscal year does not revert to the state general fund.

(i) The commissioner shall administer the fund. Expenses of administering the fund shall be paid from money in the fund.

(j) On June 30 of each year, the commissioner shall distribute the money from the fund to the special group for which the bureau has collected fees under this section.

(k) The bureau may not disclose information that identifies the persons to whom special group license plates have been issued under this section to the special group.

*As added by P.L.54-2004, SEC.2.*